

Resumé

A crown and throne for greater splendor and glory of Blessed Virgin Mary
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Presenting the royal insignia – crown and throne – to images of Virgin Mary of Mercy symbolized the highest form of worship and adoration.

My bachelor thesis focuses on coronation ceremonies in Bohemia and Moravia in the 18th Century. Based on the study of modern literature as well as old Latin manuscripts, printings, copperplates at the National Archives in Prague, Moravian Provincial Archives in Brno, Library of the Royal Canonry of Premonstratensians at Strahov in Prague, I describe how the coronation ceremonies originated and looked like, as well as where they took place.

I analyze in detail Virgin Mary's coronation insignia of Baroque period from the point of view of arts and crafts. Since the original insignia either does not exist any more or were remodeled, I concentrate on original printings of that period – published on the occasion of coronation festivities. As a result, I identify the original form of coronation insignia – crowns and thrones / altars which did not outlast the centuries.

The main contribution is that I have discovered an undisclosed copperplate “Coronation of Virgin Mary of Svata Hora” by A. Birckhart, 1732. I provide a detailed iconographic analysis of this unique masterpiece from the Royal Canonry of Premonstratensians at Strahov.